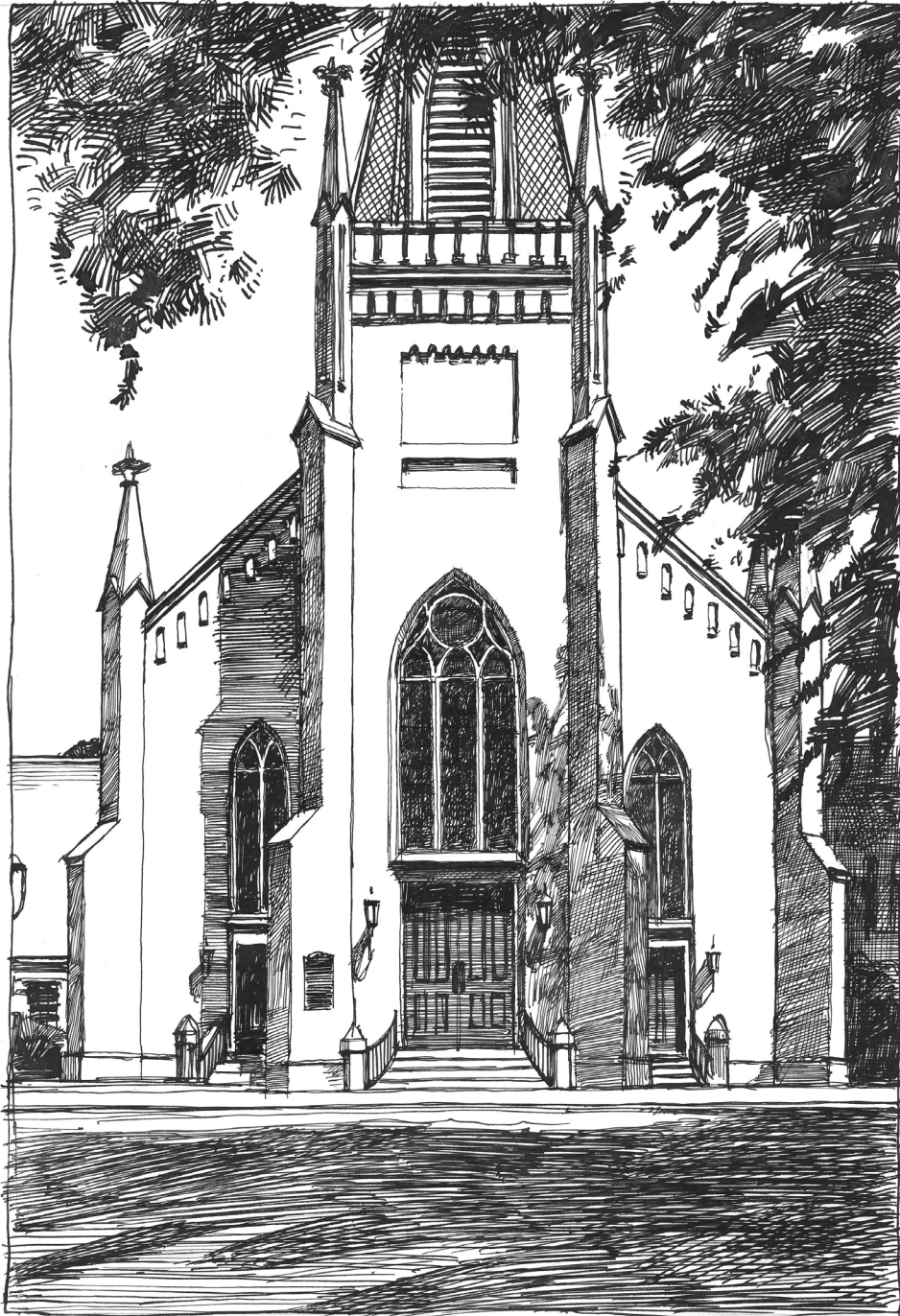


First Presbyterian Church

11 AM WORSHIP | MAY 3, 2026 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



We invite you, whoever you are and whoever God is helping you to become, to join First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte in our journey of faith. God is love, and that love is for you. You belong as a child of God, and we welcome you. Come experience how that belonging might change you and our world as we seek to be for Christ in the heart of Charlotte.



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

VIRTUAL
CONNECT
CARD

Are you interested in joining our church? Contact Jane Ives, Membership Coordinator, jives@firstpres-charlotte.org.

PREPARATION

Prelude | Prelude on *Land of Rest* | Wilbur Held

Words of Welcome | Lucy Crain

Chiming of the Trinity

ADORATION

Choral Call to Worship | Hal Hopson

O be ye joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with a song.

+**Hymn No. 611** | “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” | HYMN TO JOY

CONFESSION

Call to Confession | Rob Spach

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and abiding presence, we confess how easily our attention is captured by the noise around us, and how quickly we forget the quiet beauty you have planted within. We measure our worth by what we do, overlooking the grace that already claims us. We chase after virtues of our own making, instead of tending the relationship with you in which true fruit is born. Forgive us when we return to the old habit of striving for what has already been freely given. Teach us to trust your goodness at work within us, and to behold that same goodness shining through all your beloved creation.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+**Response to Pardon** | GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Time with Children

Children ages three through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn. Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture | Psalm 1: 1-3 | pew Bible p. 489

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Scripture | Galatians 5 (selected verses) | pew Bible p. 190

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

FIRST
CHURCH
MOBILE
CHECK IN

Sermon | “Rooted in the Right Place and Space” | Lucy Crain

+**Hymn No. 504** | “We Come as Guests Invited” | WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

RESPONSE

+**Affirmation of Faith** | from *A Brief Statement of Faith* | Chuck Williamson

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stewardship of Life | Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Offertory Anthem | “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” | Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit’s tether; for when humbly, in thy name, two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them. Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment’s hem. As brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up. All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we would true disciples be. Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Sanctus | LAND OF REST

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER
REQUESTS



GIVE
ONLINE



TEXT
TO GIVE



VENMO



@FirstPres
ofCharlotte

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Music During Communion (sung by the choir)

Ave Verum Corpus | W. A. Mozart

Hymn No. 533 | "In the Singing" | BREAD OF PEACE

Hymn No. 501 | "Feed Us, Lord" | FEED US

Prayer After Communion

SENDING FORTH

+Hymn No. 36 | "For the Fruit of All Creation" | ARHYDYNOS

+Benediction

+Benediction Response | "Amen" | DANISH

Postlude | Fugue in C | Dietrich Buxtehude

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Every Communion Sunday, we ask the congregation to participate in a food drive to collect items for our onsite Nourish Up Food Pantry. When we come to the communion table to be spiritually nourished, we bring food donations to nourish those of God's children who suffer from physical hunger. Collection bins are in front of the Sanctuary today, and permanently located in the Welcome Center.

If you wish to sponsor sanctuary flowers for a baptism, marriage, memorial/honorarium, or special occasion, please notify Diane Maye at dianenmaye@hotmail.com.

Today's Worship Leaders:

The Reverend Lucy M. Crain, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission

The Reverend Robert Spach, Parish Associate

The Reverend Dr. Charles Williamson, Parish Associate

William P. Young, III, Director of Music Ministries

John Mooney, cello